

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 02951 092025Z

42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 060977

P 091413Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8454

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 2951

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDSS

TAGS: MASS PFOR ET US

SUBJECT: DELIVERY TO ADDIS OF F-5E'S

REF: (A) ADDIS ABABA 2296, (B) STATE 44495, (C) STATE 52374

1. WE HAVE BEEN AWAITING WASHINGTON DECISION ON DELIVERY OF F-5E'S BY C-5 AIRCRAFT. EPMG HAD BEEN ROUTINELY NOTIFIED OF MARCH 16 SCHEDULED ARRIVAL, AND PLANS FOR SURVEY TEAM TO INSPECT ADDIS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT RUNWAY AND FACILITIES BEFORE THAT DATE. TIME IS GETTING SHORT, AND A DECISION IS NEEDED QUICKLY.

2. BELIEVING THAT MAJOR PROS AND CONS WELL UNDERSTOOD IN WASHINGTON, EMBASSY HAS NOT TRIED TO WEIGH IN WITH EXPLANATION OF FACTORS INVOLVED, EXCEPT TO POINT OUT (REF A) THAT PUBLIC NOTICE IS HIGHLY LIKELY, AND TO REQUEST PRESS GUIDANCE.

3. ONE SUBSTANTIVE FACTOR NEEDS EMPHASIS. TENSIONS WITHIN RULING DIRG ARE PRESENTLY AT HIGH POINT, WITH NOTICEABLE STRENGTHENING OF POWER OF LEFTISTS AS WELL AS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WOOING OF SOVIETS (AND MOST RECENTLY CHINESE) AND CONSEQUENT QUESTIONING OF RELATIONS WITH U.S. POSTPONEMENT OF ARRIVAL DATE OF F-5E'S WOULD GIVE ANTI-AMERICANS IN DIRG ADDITIONAL AMMUNITION.

IF DEPT DECIDES ON POSTPONEMENT, AND IT IS DESCRIBED, ACCURATELY, AS PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF SOLICITUDE FOR WELFARE AND
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ADDIS 02951 092025Z

SPEEDY RELEASE OF KAGNEW CAPTIVES HELD BY ERITREAN INSURGENTS,

DIRG REACTION WOULD BE EVEN MORE SEVERE AND UNPREDICTABLE. ON OTHER HAND, TO ASCRIBE POSTPONEMENT (IF SO DECIDED) TO OTHER MORE SPECIOUS REASONS RUNS CONSIDERABLE RISK THAT ETHIOPIAN DATT IN WASHINGTON WOULD DEDUCE FROM HIS OWN WASHINGTON CONTACTS THAT USG EXPLANATION IS LESS THAN CANDID, UNLESS EXTRAORDINARY AND EFFECTIVE STEPS ARE TAKEN SO THAT ALL HIS CONTACTS HEW TO OFFICIAL LINE.

4. REALIZE THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL RISKS IN ANY DECISION BUT TIME HAS COME TO MAKE ONE, AND VIEW FROM HERE IS THAT DANGER TO HOSTAGES IS LESS CERTAIN THAN DAMAGE TO US-EPMG RELATIONS THROUGH POSTPONEMENT.
HUMMEL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRANSPORTATION, AIRCRAFT, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAR 1976
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ADDIS02951
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760089-0480
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760382/aaaacuck.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS <MCM 20040719 CORRECTION>; STADIS, EXDIS
Reference: 76 ADDIS ABABA 2296, 76 STATE 44495, 76 STATE 52374
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <20 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> MCM 20040719
Subject: DELIVERY TO ADDIS OF F-5E'S
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, ET, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006